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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

HACKL et al.

Serial No.: 10/713,640

Filed: November 13, 2003

Atty. File No.: 4764-32

For: "METHOD FOR THIOSULFATE  
LEACHING OF PRECIOUS METAL-  
CONTAINING MATERIALS"

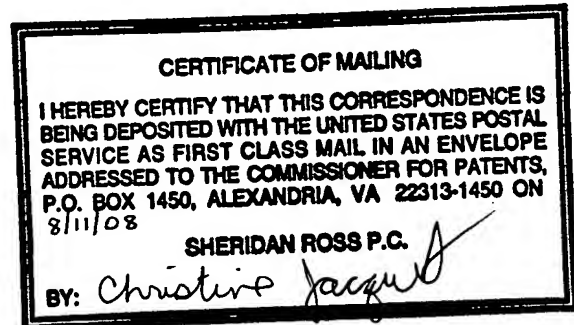
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 1754

Examiner: FIORITO, J.

Confirmation No.: 1650

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION  
REQUIREMENT



Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated July 11, 2008, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement with regard to the above-identified patent application. Generally, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-7 and 49-59 (Group I), drawn to a method, classified in class 423, subclass 23, and Claims 60-77, drawn to a method classified in class 423, subclass 1+ were distinct inventions. Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Claims 60-77 (Group II) in this patent application. However, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue Claims 1-7 and 49-59 in a subsequent divisional/continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 11, 2008